

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 EB-11

SAJ-01 DRC-01 /098 W

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R 221755Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8502

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 09724

EO 11652

TAGS: PFOR,FR

SUBJECT: JOBERT INTERVIEW AT GYMNICH

SUMMARY: FRENCH TELEVISION (ORTF) BROADCAST ON SATURDAY AN INTERVIEW WITH JOBERT AT GYMNICH, DURING "INFORMAL" MEETING OF EC FOREIGN MINISTERS, AND FOLLOWED UP SUNDAY WITH SOME QUESTIONS AND REPLIES. FRENCH NEWS AGENCY (AFP) SUNDAY REPORTED JOBERT REMARKS AT BONN DEPARTURE. EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF THIS MATERIAL FOLLOWS
END SUMMARY

1. ORTF INTERVIEW SATURDAY APRIL 20: "I DON'T BELIEVE THIS MEETING AT GYMNICH IS A USELESS MEETING. MOREOVER,
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WE ARE ALL HERE, OR ALMOST ALL. YOU KNOW, EUROPE IS

SOMETHING WHICH IS DIFFICULT TO MAKE, AND YOU CANNOT SAY THAT ON TUESDAY EUROPE WILL BE MADE AND THAT ON WEDNESDAY IT WILL COME UNDONE. EUROPE IS A SUPPLE REED THAT BENDS IN THE WIND, BUT THE IDEA OF EUROPE IS CONSTANTLY ADVANCING; AND I THINK IN THESE DIFFICULT PERIODS IT IS USEFUL THAT NINE MINISTERS MEET IN A QUITE FRIENDLY CONVERSATION TO SEE WHAT THE PROBLEMS ARE, WHAT THE OBSTACLES ARE AND TO SEE WHAT MUST BE DONE NEXT. THIS IS WHAT WE ARE DOING, AND WE ARE DOING IT FIRST ON MATTERS THAT WE KNOW WELL, WHICH WE HAVE STUMBLER OVER: THE MATTER OF EUROPE'S RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, OF ITS RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB COUNTRIES, AND OF RELATIONS -- LET'S SAY -- WITH OTHER GEOGRAPHIC OR ECONOMIC ENTITIES. WITH THE U.S., THE PROBLEM WOULD BE EXTREMELY SIMPLE IF PEOPLE DIDN'T WANT TO HAVE THEORETIC VIEWS ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE U.S. ESSENTIALLY IT IS NECESSARY TO BE PRACTICAL, TO AVOID A DOGMATIC FRAME OF MIND, AND I'M SURE WE WILL REACH A GOOD DEFINITION WHEN WE KNOW WHAT THE AMERICAN INTERESTS ARE WHICH ARE OPPOSED TO EUROPEAN INTERESTS, AND WHAT ARE THE INTERESTS OF EACH WHICH CONVERGE. AS OF THEN, WE CAN HAVE A GOOD FEELING AND A GOOD UNDERSTANDING.

2. "WITH THE OTHER ENTITIES AND IN THE PRESENT WORLD BALANCE, THE POWERS -- ESPECIALLY THE UNITED STATES -- MUST ACCEPT EUROPE'S EMERGENCE, AS A POLE OF ATTRACTION, AS AN ECONOMIC TRUTH, AND CONSEQUENTLY THAT EUROPE'S FREE EXERCISE OF ITS ACTIVITIES AND INFLUENCE IS ALLOWED BY EVERYONE. THUS, THE U.S. MUST ACCEPT THIS POTENTIAL NEW EUROPEAN PARTNER ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY. OTHER CONTINENTS, TOO MUST ACCEPT THIS REALITY.

3. "THAT'S WHAT I CAN TELL YOU ABOUT THE GYMnich MEETING. AND THEN, WE HAVE THE RELATIONS BETWEEN EUROPEANS -- TO EXAMINE HOW WE ARE GOING TO BUILD OUR FUTURE. I PUT FORTH AN IDEA WHICH WAS DEAR TO MR.POMPIDOU, OF A SORT OF EUROPEAN UNION BY 1980, WHICH COULD EXPRESS ITSELF OUTSIDE THE FORMULAS ALREADY USED FOR EUROPEAN CONSTRUCTION. IN THIS CONCEPT, THERE WOULD BE A SORT OF CONFEDERATION OF STATES ENDOWED WITH A EUROPEAN UNCLASSIFIED

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GOVERNMENT, WHICH WOULD NOT RUN EVERYTHING SINCE THERE WOULD STILL BE GOVERNMENTS IN EACH EUROPEAN COUNTRY, BUT WHICH WOULD HAVE CERTAIN POWERS, A GOVERNMENT OBVIOUSLY PROCEEDING FROM THE STATES.

4. "EACH PERSON IN FRANCE SHOULD KNOW THAT THIS EXTERNAL POLICY OF FRANCE IS NOT A FOREIGN POLICY, FOREIGN TO EACH FRENCHMAN. IN OUR ACTIONS WE ARE, EACH TIME,

MOTIVATED BY THE NEED TRULY TO DEFEND EACH FRENCHMAN,
AND IT IS OF THIS THAT I WOULD LIKE THE PUBLIC TO BE
CONVINCED, AND IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT OUR POLICY
HAS WEIGHT IN EUROPE AND IN THE WORLD."

5. NEXT EVENING (APRIL 21) ORTF CARRIED BRIEF STATEMENT
BY JOBERT IN BONN FOLLOWED BY A FEW QUESTIONS. JOBERT:
"WE DID MUCH WORK, WE ENGAGED IN MANY VERY USEFUL
REFLECTIONS, AWAY FROM EVERYONE. WE LOOKED AT CURRENT

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DRC-01 SAJ-01 /098 W

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R 221755Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8503

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

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PROBLEMS AND EXAMINED THE EUROPEAN FUTURE". QUESTION:
"IS EUROPE SICK?" JOBERT: "NOT AT ALL. EUROPE HAS
BROUGHT GREAT ADVANTAGES AND HAS BEEN VERY USEFUL TO

THE COUNTRIES AROUND IT. ONE MUST ADVANCE IN ORDER NOT TO FALL BACK." QUESTION: "IS THERE A BLOCKAGE?"
JOBERT: "NO, THAT IS AN ARTIFICIALLY-CREATED PROBLEM. EUROPE IS DEVELOPING SLOWLY BUT SURELY. RELATIONS BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE U.S. SHOULD BE HANDLED IN A SUPPLE AND FRIENDLY FASHION, AND NOT IN A THEORETICAL MANNER".

7. REPORTING SAME MEETING SUNDAY BETWEEN JOBERT AND JOURNALISTS IN BONN, FRENCH NEWS AGENCY QUOTED HIM THAT THE QUESTION OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S.
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AND COMMON MARKET SHOULD BE TREATED IN A SUPPLE AND FRIENDLY MANNER "WHILE AVOIDING THEORETICAL AND SCHEMATIC FORMULAS" AND THAT THE SUBJECT HAS BEEN ARTIFICIALLY MAGNIFIED" IN RECENT MONTHS.

8. AFP SAID: "HE ALSO THOUGHT THAT IDEAS ON CONSULTATION HAD MADE PROGRESS SINCE THE BRUSSELS DISCUSSIONS AND THAT THE PARTNERS HAD REACHED 'A FAIRER APPRECIATION OF THE FACTS'. LESS THEORETICAL AMBITION AND MORE REALISM IS NECESSARY AND ONE MUST ACT IN A PRACTICAL WAY FROM DAY TO DAY IN A FRIENDLY ATTITUDE 'TO PREPARE FOR HAPPY DAYS', HE SAID IN SUBSTANCE. QUESTIONED ON THE CONTENT OF THE CONVERSATIONS, JOBERT LIMITED HIMSELF TO SAYING THAT A GOOD PART HAD DEALT WITH THE CONDITIONS OF EUROPE'S FUTURE. HE FELT THAT NUMEROUS FACTORS ARE COMPLICATING THINGS AS THE COMPLETION OF THE COMMUNITY PROCEEDS, AND THAT THE CHIEF DIFFICULTY AT THE MOMENT LIES IN THE DIFFERENCES OF ECONOMIC LEVEL BETWEEN THE MEMBERS. 'ECONOMIC HARMONIZATION IS HAMPERED, WHICH HANDICAPS POLITICAL CONVERGENCE', HE REMARKED. QUESTIONED ON BRITAIN'S CASE, (JOBERT) REFUSED ALL COMMENT. 'I SEE ONLY ONE THING', HE SAID, 'THE ROME TREATIES AND GREAT BRITAIN'S COMMITMENTS'. MR. JOBERT, WHO ASSURED HIS LISTENERS THAT HIS EYES WERE FIXED ON THE EUROPEAN HORIZON OF 1980 (EUROPEAN UNION), REAFFIRMED HIS PROPOSAL OF EUROPE AS A CONFEDERATION OF STATES, EACH ONE OF WHICH WOULD MAKE THE NECESSARY SACRIFICES OF SOVEREIGNTY. 'THE EUROPEAN FUTURE SHOULD BE ORGANIZED AROUND THE STATES', HE ADDED, BEFORE EXPRESSING HIS CONFIDENCE IN THE EUROPE WHICH HAS BROUGHT 'INESTIMABLE ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES TO ALL THOSE IN THE COMMUNITY AND AROUND IT'. (JOBERT) ENDED BY SAYING THAT THIS TYPE OF INTIMATE MEETING WAS PARTICULARLY USEFUL. IN EFFECT, HE SAID, IT ALLOWS ONE TO OBTAIN AN EXACT VIEW OF THE PROBLEMS WITHOUT UPROAR".

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS09724
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740094-0105
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740424/aaaaavmp.tel
Line Count: 223
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2002 by BryanSD>; APPROVED <27 DEC 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOBERT INTERVIEW AT GYMnich SUMMARY: FRENCH TELEVISION (ORTF) BROADCAST ON
TAGS: PFOR, FR, (JOBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005